

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated November 27, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Applicant hereby amends claim 1, 4, 7, 10 and 24. Claims 3 and 21-22 have previously been canceled, and claims 9 and 12-20 have previously been withdrawn. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-11 and 23-24 are pending.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-11, and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,748,266 to Kodate (hereinafter "Kodate") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,862,050 to Rho et al. (hereinafter "Rho").

With regard to claim 1, as amended, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references teach or suggest the combined features recited in claim 1. More specifically, the cited references fail to teach "wherein a thickness of the seal pattern corresponds to a summation of a thickness of the pixel electrode and a thickness of the liquid crystal layer". In claim 1, the seal pattern contacts the gate insulating layer on the lower substrate and the common electrode on the upper substrate, and the pixel electrode is in contact with the gate insulating layer. The liquid crystal layer is disposed between the pixel electrode and the common electrode. Accordingly, the seal pattern has a thickness corresponding to the summation of the thickness of the pixel electrode and the thickness of the liquid crystal layer. In figure 8 of Kodate, a seal pattern (64) contacts a gate insulating layer (44) on a lower substrate (12) and a surface of an upper substrate (72). Accordingly, the seal pattern (64) has a thickness corresponding to a summation of a thickness of a pixel electrode (10) and a thickness of a space between the lower and upper substrates (12, 72).

Applicants submit Rho fails to cure the deficiencies. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

For similar reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit none of the cited reference disclose the above features of amended independent claims 7, 10 and 24. Because the cited references fail to teach the combined features of the claims of the present application. Applicants kindly request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and discussion place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Application No.: 10/028,289
Amendment dated April 17, 2008
Response to Office Action dated November 27, 2007

Docket No.: 8733.560.00

Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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